

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.



States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

CALIFORNIA HOG AUCTION SALES AND ANNUAL 'PORK DAY'.

Last year we called attention to the rather phenomenal success attending the livestock auction sales conducted by some of the California farm bureaus. This work was first started by the county agent in Kern County in 1916, and has now become general throughout the pork producing counties in California. In 1920, 175 auction sales were held, selling hogs in carloads to the value of \$1,400,000. Association officials who have carefully compared hog auction sale prices with primary market prices from week to week vouch for the statement that farmers consigning hogs to these sales have during 1920 received \$134,300 more for their stock than they would have received through individual selling. Eighteen hundred consignors were involved in this project in the state during the year, entering from a single hog to a carload. Each received the benefit of carload prices. Consignors and buyers alike agree at the end of four years of conservative selling that the average quality of fat hogs offered by farmers at these sales is far superior in quality over that of 1916. Four hundred hog sales have made demonstrations to thousands of swine growers that number one quality only brings number one price. The county agent leader says in his annual report:

"There seems to be no more convincing argument to a hog producer than to see the actual sales of his animals take place and to know the difference in price that is paid for a superior quality of animal."

As an outgrowth of these auction sales, Kings County has inaugurated a farm bureau center hog feeding contest which culminates in an annual pork day, which was held this year on October 28. In this contest the farm bureau centre is the unit and each farm bureau centre in the contest advances one carload of hogs which is exhibited on pork day and the carloads are rated by an expert judge. Each farm bureau centre must have at least six consignors to the load, thereby preventing any big concern from exhibiting a carload. In this year's contest six farm bureau centres as well as a boys' pig club took part in the contest, which created an immense amount of interest in all phases of pork production. Ten additional carloads were auctioned off in addition to seven cars that had been in the contest.

County Agent Section
12-24-'20
No. 20-L *Wem.*

